



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5446

LCO No. 4679

04679HB05446TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

**AN ACT CONCERNING ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND RESTRICTIONS
FOR DRIVERS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2005*):

4 (d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any
5 applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant
6 has held a learner's permit and has satisfied the requirements specified
7 in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) present to the commissioner
8 a certificate of the successful completion in a public secondary school,
9 a state vocational school or a private secondary school of a full course
10 of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided in section 14-
11 36e or of training of similar nature provided by a licensed drivers'
12 school approved by the commissioner, including, in each case,
13 successful completion of not less than [eight] twenty clock hours of
14 behind-the-wheel, on-the-road instruction; (B) present to the
15 commissioner a certificate of the successful completion of a course of
16 not less than eight hours relative to safe driving practices, including a

17 minimum of four hours on the nature and the medical, biological and
18 physiological effects of alcohol and drugs and their impact on the
19 operator of a motor vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation
20 of a motor vehicle after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the
21 operator, the problems of alcohol and drug abuse and the penalties for
22 alcohol and drug-related motor vehicle violations; and (C) pass an
23 examination which shall include a comprehensive test as to knowledge
24 of the laws concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road and an
25 on-the-road skills test as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time
26 of application and examination for a motor vehicle operator's license,
27 an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age shall have held a
28 learner's permit for not less than one hundred eighty days, except that
29 an applicant who presents a certificate under subparagraph (A) of this
30 subdivision shall have held a learner's permit for not less than one
31 hundred twenty days and an applicant who is undergoing training
32 and instruction by the handicapped driver training unit in accordance
33 with the provisions of section 14-11b shall have held such permit for
34 the period of time required by said unit. The Commissioner of Motor
35 Vehicles shall approve the content of the safe driving instruction at
36 drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary schools. Such
37 ~~[eight]~~ twenty hours of instruction shall be included as part of or in
38 addition to any existing instruction programs. Any fee charged for the
39 course required under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall not
40 exceed an amount prescribed by the commissioner by regulation,
41 adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Any applicant sixteen or
42 seventeen years of age who, while a resident of another state,
43 completed the course required in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision,
44 but did not complete the safe driving course required in subparagraph
45 (B) of this subdivision, shall complete the safe driving course, and any
46 fee charged for the course shall not exceed an amount prescribed by
47 the commissioner by regulation, adopted in accordance with chapter
48 54. The commissioner may waive any requirement in this subdivision,
49 except for that in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in the case of
50 an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a valid motor

51 vehicle operator's license issued by any other state, provided the
52 commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received training and
53 instruction of a similar nature. (2) The commissioner may accept as
54 evidence of sufficient training under subparagraph (A) of subdivision
55 (1) of this subsection home training as evidenced by a written
56 statement signed by the spouse of a married minor applicant, or by a
57 parent, grandparent, foster parent or the legal guardian of an applicant
58 which states that the applicant has obtained a learner's permit and has
59 successfully completed a driving course taught by the person signing
60 the statement, that the signer has had an operator's license for at least
61 four years preceding the date of the statement, and that the signer has
62 not had such license suspended by the commissioner for at least four
63 years preceding the date of the statement or, if the applicant has no
64 spouse, parent, grandparent, foster parent or guardian so qualified and
65 available to give the instruction, a statement signed by the applicant's
66 stepparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt, by blood or marriage,
67 provided the person signing the statement is qualified. (3) If the
68 commissioner requires a written test of any applicant under this
69 section, the test shall be given in English or Spanish at the option of the
70 applicant, provided the commissioner shall require that the applicant
71 shall have sufficient understanding of English for the interpretation of
72 traffic control signs. (4) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may
73 adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
74 implement the purposes of this subsection concerning the content of
75 safe driving instruction at drivers' schools, high schools and other
76 secondary schools. (5) An operator's license shall entitle the holder,
77 while the holder has such a license in his or her possession, to operate
78 a motor vehicle on the public highways, except that a holder who is
79 less than eighteen years of age may not operate a motor vehicle (A)
80 after 11:59 p.m. until and including 5:00 a.m. unless such holder is
81 traveling from an activity that is sponsored by a school in which the
82 operator is enrolled to the operator's place of residence or is traveling
83 between the operator's place of employment and place of residence,
84 and (B) during the first six months after being issued such a license,

85 while carrying a passenger unless such a passenger is the operator's
86 parent, foster parent, guardian, sibling, grandparent, spouse or child.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	October 1, 2005	14-36(d)
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Statement of Purpose:

To promote public safety by placing restrictions on driving while sixteen and seventeen years of age.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. SCRIBNER, 107th Dist.; REP. GIEGLER, 138th Dist.

H.B. 5446